

Regional Transportation Strategy 2002-2012 Annual Monitoring Report 2004-2005

Initiatives Monitoring Table – Department For Regional Development

DRD INITIATIVES: MONITORING

Ref	Initiative	Lead Responsibility	Target Delivery Date	Position as at 31 March 2005
5.3.1	Transport Related Initiatives			
(i)	Future institutional arrangements for the planning, delivery and regulation of public transport in Northern Ireland – ‘A New Start for Public Transport in Northern Ireland’.	DRD	<p>Publication of consultation document September 2002</p> <p>By January 2003, to publish the response to the consultation</p> <p>By May 2003, to prepare a business plan for establishment of a shadow regulatory body</p> <p>By June 2003, to prepare a scoping study on the transfer of bus licensing from DOE</p> <p>By November 2003, to complete a review of the regulation of bus services</p> <p>By September 2004, to initiate the formal legislative process to introduce public transport reform legislation</p>	<p>A New Start for Public Transport in Northern Ireland is a Service Delivery Action “to improve the planning, delivery and governance of public transport”. The Public Service Agreement target is “In support of the 10 year Regional Transportation Strategy target to introduce modern, sustainable, safe and integrated transport for everyone, we will improve and support public transport services.</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Consultant’s recommendations agreed in May. New Performance Unit established within Ports & Public Transport Division in March 2004.</p> <p>Task subsumed within review of bus regulation.</p> <p>Consultants Report received April 2004. The Minister has asked officials to explore with key stakeholders whether there is scope for an active programme of improvement without structural or legislative change.</p> <p>Awaits scoping study of policy issues.</p>

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			Assist NITHC to carry out an organisational review of its structures and strategic reviews of Citybus, Ulsterbus and NIR.	NITHC review underway.
(ii)	Prepare an Accessible Transport Strategy for Northern Ireland.	RPTD	By March 2005	Completed.
(iii)	The transport needs of people with disabilities will be factored into the development of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Transport Plan and into the preparation of subsequent Transport Plans.	RS	BMTP- EQIA April 2004 RSTN- EQIA July 2004 SRTP- Draft March 2006	Completed. Completed. SRTP, will take account of the objectives and action points contained in the Accessible Transport Strategy for NI (item 5.3. 1 (ii)).
(iv)	DRD will keep under review the current arrangements for practical ongoing co-operation on cross-border regional planning and transportation issues between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.	RPTD RS PPTD	On-going	Roads Service and NRA continue to liaise on strategic road development issues through regular meetings of the Cross Border Steering Group. Next meeting programmed for 7 October 2005. PPTD continue to liaise closely with the ROI Department of Social & Family Affairs on matters relating to cross border concessionary travel. Following a meeting between the respective Ministers in September 2004, the DRD Minister gave his commitment to allowing Departmental staff to co-operate with their counterparts in RoI to ensure compatibility between ticketing operating systems. The Department continues to meet with the ROI Department of Transport on other public transport issues mainly railway strategy and railway safety.
(v)	The Department will liaise on an ongoing basis with	RPTD RS	On-going	Discussions have taken place on Rapid Transit issues between RPTD and counterparts from GB and the RoI.

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	counterparts in Whitehall, the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly on the strategic transportation issues of relevance to all parts of the United Kingdom. The Department will have regard to the European Commission's White Paper on Transport in the implementation of the RTS.	PPTD		<p>RPTD are working closely with the RoI team on the practical implications of implementing the RDS and National Spatial Strategy, particularly in the North West.</p> <p>Roads Service continues to hold meetings with officials from Department for Transport, other Whitehall Departments and local authorities.</p> <p>PPTD continues to hold regular meetings with relevant officials in UK Departments particularly on EU transport issues, railway safety matters and bus support measures.</p>
(vi)	Continued investigation of the potential for increased private sector involvement in the provision of transportation infrastructure and services including:		On-going	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> further consideration of the scope for the use of Public Private Partnerships in public transport and for the development of large scale 'Design, Build, Finance and Operate' contracts for highway infrastructure; 	PPTD (Bus) RPTD (RT) RS (Highways)		<p>Lead responsibility for PPP approaches is now firmly with business areas rather than IFD.</p> <p>No opportunities currently identified by PPTD</p> <p>Roads Service has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> appointed legal, financial and technical advisers; received approval from DFP/SIB for the Outline Business Cases for the first & second DBFO packages; commenced the procurement process for both packages with publication of the contract notices in the Official Journal of the European Union on 5th

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				<p>January 2004 for P1 and 14th March 2005 for P2;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> publicly announced the details of the first and second packages at Ministerial Launches held on 19 January 2004 and 22nd March 2005; selected four bidders who were invited to negotiate for the first package during April 2004; received tenders for P1 on 15 September and selected two tenderers to be invited to submit Best and Final Offer (BAFO) in March 2005.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reassessment of the contribution to be made by developers in mitigating the impact of their new developments on transportation infrastructure and services; 	Finance Division	Ongoing	<p>Following advice from HMT that earlier proposals for a tariff based system would constitute a tax as opposed to a charge for services, the approach to developers' contributions has been reappraised. For infrastructure charges, it is no longer proposed to use enhanced planning agreements to raise significant increases to contributions from developers. This is in line with developments in England and Wales. Instead, procedures are now being developed to ensure that the maximum use is made of the provisions within existing planning legislation.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consideration of the potential benefits/disbenefits of road user charging; and 	RS	Ongoing	<p>The BMTP proposals do not include road user charging within the 2015 Plan period. However, developments in other areas of the British Isles will be monitored and a review should occur during the Plan Period. The Government's Road Pricing Feasibility Study report was published in July 2004.</p> <p>Transport Select Committee Report (24 March 2005) was upbeat about road pricing, suggesting a phased introduction of small scale charging schemes on trunk roads and in urban areas, as part of a package of improved public transport and road improvements to reduce congestion.</p>

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				HM Customs and Excise to introduce Lorry Road user Charging across the UK in 2008.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> further investigation of other possible funding methodologies (including the use of bonds). 	IFD		Completed. Use of bond finance to support roads, water and public transport was the subject of a feasibility study by Ernst and Young Management Consultants commissioned by IFD. The study findings were published in June 2002. This concluded that the use of bond finance for roads and public transport was not feasible.
(vii)	<p>Improve and enhance the Department's own transportation related organisational structure. This includes the creation of a dedicated Regional Planning and Transportation Division.</p> <p>Establish DMMU, including participation in the Transport Planning Skills Initiative.</p>	<p>DRD</p> <p>RS</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Dec 2003</p>	<p>RPTD established August 2002. Public Transport Performance Division established 2004.</p> <p>Achieved.</p>
(viii)	Establish an external advisory body comprising of representatives from the private and voluntary/community sectors to assist the Department in the effective implementation of the RTS.	RPTD	Summer 2003	Achieved.
(ix)	Following improvements to public transport, demand	RS	Ongoing	The BMTP and Draft BMAP, both published in November 2004, bring forward proposals to reduce the

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	management measures may be applied. These are likely to be based upon increased charges or reduced availability of spaces for long stay (commuter) parking. The measures applied will be guided by the work of the Data Monitoring and Modelling Unit (see (vii)).			level of provision of long-stay commuter parking in Belfast city centre.
(x)	Introduce a Railway Safety Bill under which subordinate legislation can be made for railway safety in Northern Ireland.	PPTD	Summer 2002	Achieved.
(xi)	Review the relevant provision of the Transport Act (NI) 1967 in order to support delivery of the Strategy in conjunction, as appropriate, with the Department of the Environment.	DRD	September 2004	Will be taken forward in the context of 'New Start for Public Transport'.
(xii)	Review and initiate changes to roads legislation to streamline the statutory process for preparing major roadworks schemes.	RS	January 2005 (Revised estimated target date for introduction of streamlined procedures).	Achieved
(xiii)	Complete and implement the findings of the Speed Management Review.	RS	Depends on outcome of GB review	DfT review was completed and issued for public consultation in November 2004. The Minister gave the go-ahead for a review of the NI position subsequent to this. DfT advise that it will be July 2005 before it will be in a position to publish the outcomes of their review. As

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				DRD will wish to take cognisance of the outcomes of the DfT review, it will be September 2005, at the earliest, before the review of speed management can be concluded.
(xiv)	Undertake a feasibility study of the decriminalisation of parking offences.	RS	April 2003	Achieved.
(xv)	Review the Concessionary Fares Scheme to consider possible extension to other categories following the introduction of the free travel initiative on 1 October 2001.	PPTD	October 2002	Completed.
(xvi)	Review the opportunities to use the SMART (Self Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology) card technology being introduced with the new public transport integrated ticketing system.	PPTD	December 2003	Ongoing. Translink has begun to use SMART card technology in commercial operations, e.g. multi-journey tickets. SMART card technology has also been used for the extension of the scheme to more categories of people with disabilities.
(xvii)	Develop research projects in partnerships with universities and industry to ensure access to add to the sound base of knowledge and statistics from which performance of transportation initiatives can be monitored and future trends predicted.	RPTD RS	On-going	University of Ulster (UU) has undertaken research into the Safer Routes to Schools concept and held a seminar in February 2004 that was part sponsored by Roads Service Transportation Unit (RSTU). Research for evaluation of Park & Share sites at Dunsilly and Lurgan has been commissioned by RSTU with QUB Transport Research Institute. Draft Report received in March 2005.
(xviii)	Encourage the establishment of Quality Partnerships, where	PPTD RS	On-going	Roads Service has revised its construction procurement strategy. The strategy promotes the establishment of

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	appropriate, to harness the resources of all to deliver the elements of the Strategy.			partnerships between the client (Roads Service), contractors and consultants to assist in the effective delivery of Roads Service works programme. In addition, a number of other Partnerships are in place e.g. Cycling Forum, Walking Forum, School Travel Advisory Group and the Travelwise Partnership.
8.3	Transport Plans			
8.3.1	Deliver the RTS through three Transport Plans – BMTP, RSTNTP, and a Sub-Regional Transport Plan.	RS	BMTP May 2003 RSTNTP December 2003 SRTP March 2006	Completed. Completed.
8.3.5	Transportation Studies to be undertaken to provide more information to confirm local strategies, initiatives, schemes and proposals that should be included in Transport Plans.	RS	In line with Transport Plans	As above at 8.3.1.
8.3.10	Twin track approach to the Sub-Regional Transport Plan. An annual Sub-Regional Transport Programme will be prepared outlining initiatives to be undertaken and detailing costs for each of the District Council Areas. At the same time, an extended work plan of more detailed Local Transport Studies, concurrent with the programme of Local	RS	On-going Annual Regional Transport Programme	Regional Transport Programme published in June 2004.

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	Development Plans will commence.			
8.5	Review Procedures			
8.5.1	If the Strategy is to remain appropriate over time it will be necessary to review how targets are being met. (Possibly an Annual Progress Statement).	RPTD	On-going	Annual Reports on the Implementation and Monitoring of the RTS have been produced for 2002-03 and 2003-04. Report for 2004-05 published in July 2005.
8.5.5	Formal mid-term review of the RTS linking to the preparation of bids in the Spending Review 2006.	RPTD	March 2006	Currently considering how best to carry out the review.
C1.1 Other Transport Related Initiatives				
(i)	An inter-departmental steering group will produce an annual report on progress on the Regional Development Strategy (RDS). Details of the Regional Transportation Strategy targets and arrangements for monitoring and review are set out in Chapter 7 of that	RPTD	First report due in draft by 7 April 2003.	Completed. Reports have been published covering the period up to March 2004. The RDS Reports include progress on key transportation performance indicators.

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	document.			
(ii)	Publish strategic Planning Policy Statements:			
	1. By July 2002 on 'Housing in Settlements' and 'Transportation and Land Use'	RPTD	To Assembly by September 2002. Complete by December 2002.	Housing in Settlements completed. Transportation and Land Use completed.
	2. By September 2003 on:			
	(a) 'Retailing and Town Centres'	RPTD	Proposals by Autumn and settled by March 2003.	Draft PPS 5 – Retailing, Town Centres and Commercial Leisure Developments, due to be published for public consultation later in 2005.
	(b) 'The Countryside'	RPTD	Key issues Paper by December 2002.	Completed. Draft PPS 14 is due to be published for public consultation later in 2005.
(iii)	Review the Transport Programme for People with Disabilities by summer 2002.	PPTD	Summer 2002	Achieved.
(iv)	Continue to liaise with Department of the Environment and local authorities during the review and assessment of local air quality and where the need to establish Air Quality Management Areas is identified, confirm specific measures in transport plans.	RS	On-going	Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) declared on traffic sources in Belfast and Londonderry. Roads Service is liaising with local councils in the preparation of local Action Plans.
(v)	Review tourist signing policy in Northern Ireland in conjunction	RS	Publication by Mar 2003.	Achieved.

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	with Northern Ireland Tourist Board.			

Abbreviations

AQMA Air Quality Management Area
 BMTP Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan
 DMMU Data Monitoring and Modelling Unit
 EQIA Equality Impact Assessment
 IFD Infrastructure Funding Division
 NITB Northern Ireland Tourist Board
 NITNC Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company
 PPS Planning Policy Statement
 PPTD Ports & Public Transport Division
 RPTD Regional Planning & Transportation Division
 RS Road Service
 RSTN Regional Strategic Transportation Network
 RSTU Roads Service Transportation Unit
 RTSSG Regional Transportation Strategy Steering Group
 SRTP Sub-Regional Transport Plan Transport Policy & Support Division
 TPPD Transport Programme for People with Disabilities